



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

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SENATOR CHAFEE ANNOUNCES HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FOR PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs member Senator Lincoln Chafee announced today that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded the Providence Fire Department a Fire Prevention and Safety Award totaling \$127,412. The Department will use the funding to expand current public education programs aimed at reducing the occurrence of fires and fire related injuries. Funds will also be used to purchase and install approximately 25,000 smoke detectors in the homes of Providence residents. The program will target older adults and minorities living in the City.

“An increase in funding for fire education programs can properly prepare Providence residents for what to do in the event of a fire, minimizing related injuries and deaths. As a member of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, I am pleased that the department has been able to allocate these funds to many fire departments across the country, and I will continue to work to bring funding for these essential services to Rhode Island,” Senator Chafee said.

The Providence Fire Department will administer fire education courses and seminars to Providence residents in public schools, senior centers, recreational centers, health fairs, and other public venues. The Department will also work with community leaders to locate and identify at-risk populations, and reach out to these groups to install smoke detectors in their homes.

“Our intention is to work with our target groups to provide working smoke detectors in the proper locations to as many people as possible in the coming year,” said City of Providence Fire Marshall George S. Farrell.

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Falling under the jurisdiction of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, this Fire Prevention and Safety Award can be used to provide services including: public education and awareness activities, fire inspector certifications, fire code enforcement activities, the purchase and installation of smoke alarms and fire suppression systems, in addition to arson prevention and detection activities.

For more information regarding the 2004 Assistance to firefighter grant program, please visit www.firegrantsupport.com.

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